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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,895	10/28/2003	Takeaki Hashimoto	Q78194	4033

23373 7590 05/17/2007
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EXAMINER

VO, QUANG N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/17/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/693,895	Applicant(s) HASHIMOTO, TAKEAKI	
	Examiner Quang N. Vo	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/28/03</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Davidson et al. (Davidson) (USPN 6,952,485).

With regard to claim 1, Davidson discloses a print system (column 1, lines 58-60) comprising: a plurality of printers each having information identifying the printer (column 2, lines 11-20), a host section that transmits print data to the plurality of printers to instruct the printers to carry out printing (column 2, lines 13-20), a discharge portion to which prints from each printer are discharged, a printer particular information providing device with which during printing, the printer provides, on each print to be discharged from the discharge portion, particular information indicating which printer has produced the print (column 2, lines 4-30).

With regard to claim 2, Davidson discloses wherein each of the printers determines a position at which the particular information is to be provided, from

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the size of the print data transmitted to the printer (column 2, lines 13-20, lines 35-38 and column 10, lines 20-63).

With regard to claim 3, Davidson discloses wherein the particular information is a printed indication on printed surface of the print, and the printer analyzes print data present around the determined particular information provided position and applies, on the basis of results of the analysis, an indication which is less noticeable than the print data present around the determined particular information provided position but which can still be visually discovered (column 4, lines 39-63).

With regard to claim 4, Davidson discloses wherein the position at which the particular information is provided varies with the printers, and each of the printers determines a position at which the particular information is to be provided on the basis of the information identifying the printer (column 10, lines 45-63).

With regard to claim 5, Davidson discloses wherein the particular information is a printed indication on end portion of the printed surface of the print (column 10, lines 45-63).

With regard to claim 6, Davidson discloses wherein said indication comprises dots and said print data present around comprises data of dots present around which are printed around the dots (column 4, lines 16-29).

With regard to claim 7, Davidson discloses wherein a gradation value for the dots is value deviating from an average value for the dot gradation value of the dots present around by about 128 gradations (column 4, lines 16-20).

With regard to claim 8, Davidson discloses a printer (column 3, lines 22-25) comprising: an analyzing device analyzing print data, and an indication providing device which provides an indication which is unnoticeable but can still be visually discovered, on a print to be produced, on the basis of results of the analysis (column 4, lines 30-63 and column 10, lines 45-63).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Vo whose telephone number is 5712701121. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-5:00PM Monday-Friday.

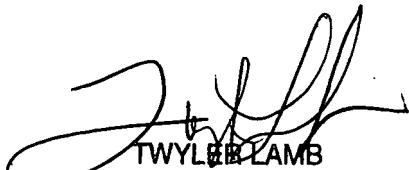
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached on 5712727406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Quang N. Vo 5/11/07
Patent Examiner



TWYLLA LAMB
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER